

CHELSEFIELD VILLAGE VOICE

July 2023

Produced by
Chelsfield Village Hall



Chelsfield Village Fair Saturday 8th July 2023

Gates open 12 noon

Music till 6:30pm

Adults £5 Children £2 Under 5s FREE
(on the gate or on-line)

Flying Displays from an Extra 330SC,
OTTO the Helicopter and a Spitfire
Displays subject to weather, aircraft
serviceability and crew fitness



M THE MAYPOLE PROJECT

themaypoleproject.co.uk
Raising funds for The Maypole
Project and local good causes

All the fun of the Fair!

Flying Displays

Force 10 Big Band

Croydon Steel Orchestra

Black Eagles Acrobatic Team

Beer Tent and Tea Room

Food

Market

Fun Fair

Pony Rides

Over 70 stalls



Flying Displays
financed by
Chelsfield
Flying
Club and
MANAK
Solicitors



Chelsfield
Cricket Green
Bucks Cross Road
Chelsfield Village BR6 7RL

chelsfieldfair.com

Find us on

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Residents & Friends of Chelsfield Village

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Please get anything
you have for
publication in the
August 2023 issue to:
chelsfieldvillagevoice@gmail.com
by
Friday 28th July 2023

Stitchwort

I hear from my neighbour Karen in the stables behind the cottages on Maypole Rd that swallows have arrived but this year's show consists of only one nest in her barn which would explain the random and infrequent flight of these birds through the cottage gardens. Unfortunately Karen says that magpies have been hanging around the barn and thinks that the nest may well have been predated. On a similar subject, for many years bats have flown around the stables yet despite Karen's knowledge of the site, she has no idea when they roost. There is a hollow fallen tree nearby that may be a suitable roost but other than that we are at a loss to know where they live. One last stables related story from Karen relates to a field behind the stables where recently every morning Karen tells me that a buzzard can be found on the ground feeding a young fledgling. Buzzards will take worms, beetles and other invertebrates but this behaviour usually only occurs when food sources such as voles,

mice and rabbits are scarce. I'm wondering if this 'ground feeding' is a means of training young birds to feed themselves. After all, the young bird can see what the parent is doing and if hunger and frustration gets the better of it, the fledgling can collect its own food. Stage one of 'self sufficiency training' will then be complete!

Stichwort, or more strictly Greater Stitchwort (*Stellaria holostea*) is a straggly plant with angled stems and grass like leaves that often uses other plants to support itself due to the weakness of its stems. It is a member of the carnation family and can grow up to 50 cm high. It appears as a small bush-

like plant with many small white deeply divided flowers. It has five petals but due to the deeply divided petals appears to have ten petals. It is both pretty, easy to identify and can be found in deciduous woodland and hedgerows but is also popular as a garden plant for gardeners looking to add some natural beauty. It also has the advantages of being easy to propagate and can be used in salads. This plant is known for being an early bloomer and hence is an important food source for bees. It prefers shaded places and like so many shade loving plants it does not last long once picked. There is an example of this plant on the side of Maypole Road



but by the time I was able to photograph the plant the flowers had wilted and the flower heads appeared to becoming seed heads. In the autumn (or for the enjoyment of children via squeezing the seed heads) the seed heads burst open making an audible noise while broadcasting their seeds. The noise produced during this process led to this plant also being known colloquially as Snapdragon, Snap jacks or Nanny Crackers. Other local names include: Star flower and Mother Shimbles.

It's more common name 'stitchwort' is derived from the belief that it could be used to alleviate the pain of exercise, i.e. the stitch. The medicine was administered via a preparation consisting of stitchwort and acorns within a glass of wine. Similar folklore says that along with white campion and the field poppy it is known as a 'thunder flower'. So if one is unwise enough to pick one of these plants the action is likely to provoke a thunderstorm. To explore the folklore route further, tales in Cornwall tell of this plant being the

property of pixies and should one pick this plant, one will not only provoke the aforementioned thunderstorms but also the wrath of the local pixies! Despite this warning, weddings in historic times saw stitchwort as a symbol of purity and as such was used in traditional wedding bouquets.



Also based in ancient folklore is an ancient 'doctrine of signatures' which suggests that plants that have visual similarities to body parts or characteristics reminiscent of ailments then God clearly intended for these plants to be used to remedy the associated medical complaints of those parts. Hence nipplewort for complaints of the nipples for example. In the case of stitchwort the stems are very weak and break easily and hence it

seemed logical that this plant should be good for healing broken bones. Stemming from that history, the Greek words 'halos' and 'ostean' included within stitchwort's botanical name (*Stellaria holostea*) mean 'whole and 'bone'. It was also considered good for complaints such as rheumatism, arthritis and in recent times has been found to contain compounds that have antifungal and antibacterial properties. Possibly stemming from these properties a simple ointment for stings and rashes can be made using stitchwort.

Ingredients:
 ½ a mug full of washed Greater Stitchwort leaves
 1 ½ mugs of plain aqueous cream
 (Sorbolene)

Method:
 Liquefy the leaves in a blender then add in the aqueous cream and continue blending until it is thoroughly mixed and smooth. Transfer to a sterilised jar, seal and store in the fridge. This should last for around 3 weeks if refrigerated.

*Steve Fuller
 July 2023*

Chelsfield Village Fair

Well here we are - less than a week to the Fair and most things seem to be in place for an event which has been without doubt the most stressful for the team.

The Council and the police's sudden interest in the event has created a suitable tonnage of extra paperwork, but we've done it. Thanks to your good manners not to object to our Premises Licence application, we have a bar and the steel band and big band won't be playing illegally.

The air display hasn't been without complications but the generosity of the Chelsfield Flying Club and Manak Solicitors has covered the not inconsiderable cost of three flying displays. I had a meeting at Biggin Hill Airport last week to plan the best way of keeping their air traffic nice and far away from our air traffic and when I explained the concept of the Flying Club, they were most envious that we had a population that like aeroplanes to the

point of paying for them!

Many thanks to all of you who help us put this event on and also to those that look on with bemusement but accede to our more outrageous requests. And those that run for the hills! We hope many of you will join us on the day for another ridiculously over the top Chelsfield Village Fair. Thanks for getting the joke, year after year!

*Dave Griffiths
Chelsfield Village Fair*

National Trust: Orpington & Chislehurst Centre

The Centre has monthly evening lectures held at the Methodist Church, Sevenoaks Road, Orpington, BR6 9JH starting at 8.00pm and afternoon lectures held at the Methodist Church, Prince Imperial Road, Chislehurst, BR7 5LX starting at 2.00pm

There is also a regular

programme of local walks, day trips, holidays and a variety of social events.

To find out more about the Centre and how to join please send an email to ntocc100@gmail.com Membership is open to both members and non-members of the National Trust.

LECTURES FOR July 2023

Thursday 13 July
at 2.00pm
The Good, the Bad, the Ugly ...and the Beautiful

Thursday 27 July
at 8.00pm
Doodlebugs and Rockets

Community Day - Brown's School 23rd June 2023

It is worth stating that this was the 10th year that the Brown's School

Community Day was being run – a milestone one might state, and one

that we as a community look forward to every year on arrival. On a



around checking to see that everything was okay and that everyone had the necessary equipment for the jobs they were doing, I saw staff and students washing cars, cleaning patios, moving logs, cutting branches, painting bus stops, clearing gardens, helping out in the “Five Bells” and “Bo Peep”, as well as the Cricket Pavilion - and generally doing whatever to help the happy folk in Chelsfield village. To add to this years work list, we were also happy to go and help out in the extensive garden of the local church. With all this going on, the students seemed to be happy at work and hopefully learning new things in life’s journey and developing their communication skills at the same time.

wonderfully blue-skied, warm morning, the Brown’s School Community Day began with the school minibus rolling out at 9.00am to drop off the first group of students to their destination at Well Hill. A day that will see both staff and student’s help

others in the Community in our annual charity event. By 10.15 approximately all 90 students were in their places doing their small bit to help others in various jobs around people’s houses, bus stops, pubs, and the community hall. As I went

At around 12 the round-up of students began with the minibus full of tired but happy students, and it was then that they began to relax and look forward to enjoying an afternoon of fun with a bouncy castle, Sumo suits and challenge tunnel, as well as enjoying a tasty and refreshing BBQ, - staffed as usual by the Bromley



Rotarian Society. The students and staff sat down to a tasty meat feast with salad, relishes and sauces at the ready, and some fresh fruit to consume to add to the days hard work (also with vegetarian options). It was pleasing to see some of the adults from Chelsfield Village that we had helped in the morning come and join us in the afternoon, as well as many parents and friends of the students themselves. In fact I think it was the largest crowd we have ever had in the school grounds in this our 10th annual Community Day event. Can I once again thank all of those in the Chelsfield Community who allowed us to enter



their homes, Community Centre, Pubs and fields so that our students can do their bit. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Rotarians who come every year to stage the BBQ so well and deliver an excellent service.

Lastly may I thank all the parents who came in the afternoon, your support is always welcome and fully appreciated.

Community Day will be back at the end of the academic year July 2024 when once again we will be helping others in Chelsfield in a charitable way. If you would like us to help out at your place of residence or business at that time, please do not hesitate to contact Brown's School for a brief chat to explain what it all entails.

Many thanks again to One and All



*Chris Ponulak
Brown's School*

Halstead & District Horticultural Society

Mid July (TBC) Outing to
Penns in the Rocks
Groombridge (own
transport)

families Alstroemeria
nursery and the UK
flower industry (Flowers
available to buy)

Halstead Village Hall

Nov 23rd AGM 8pm
Halstead Village Hall

Sept 2nd Autumn Show
2pm Halstead Village Hall
(Staging 9.30-11.30)

Oct 12th Quiz 7.30pm
Halstead Village Hall

**Membership £10 per
year**

Sept 28th 8pm Talk My

Oct 26th 8pm Talk The
great Storm of 1987

or joint membership £15

KENT HEIGHTS FLOWER CLUB

**Come along and
celebrate our summer
demonstration
Everyone welcome to
our small friendly club**

Thursday 6th July 2023

7.00pm for tea and
homemade cakes

7.30pm for the
demonstration with
Graham Harmer

Halstead Village Hall,
Knockholt Road,
TN14 7EX

£5 pay on the door

Raffle

For further information
contact

Sally Kemsley on
01959 534406



Kent Heights display at Well Hill Mission Flower Festival

THE CHELSFIELD PLAYERS

Chelsfield Village Hall, Bucks Cross Road, Chelsfield BR6 7RL

Saturday, 29 July 2023

Good old family fun!



BEEBLE DRIVE



Doors open at 6.45 pm - Fun starts at 7.00 pm

£5 per person - everyone welcome!

Suggested minimum age for children: 8 years

BAR * RAFFLE * PRIZES

*** BRING YOUR OWN SNACKS ***

Reserve your table for our fundraising event on

07549 012140 or

info@chelsfieldplayers.org

Chelsfield Community Cafe



Hi all, we've been having a quizzing time at cafe in June, with questions on London sights and brainteasers on cities in the UK. Do join us in July for tea, coffee, cake, conversation and no doubt a few more brainteasers. And delving into local history, Chris Hellicar has been researching Queen

Elizabeth I's visit to Bromley, and has promised to give us a short talk on the subject. First and third Wednesday of every month from 2.30pm in Chelsfield Village Hall, so that's Wednesday 5th and Wednesday 19th this month. See you there!

*Pam, Mags
and the team*

Cream Teas in the Rectory Garden

Come and enjoy a cream tea in the Rectory garden on Sunday 9th July and Sunday 23rd July from 2.30pm to 4.30pm.

All welcome - the Rectory is in Skibbs Lane just on the left as you turn in from Bucks Cross Road opposite the Village Hall. Raising money for St Martin's Chelsfield.



Martyn's Law and its Threat to Village Halls

Many of you may have heard of a possible threat to Village Halls recently.

Martyn's Law - named after Martyn Hett, a victim of the Manchester Arena bombing in 2017, consists of new anti-

-terrorism -legislation to improve security in -public places. This was in response to criticism that staff at the Manchester Arena were ill-prepared to identify risks and to deal with the attack, which killed 22

people.

The proposed law would require venues of all sizes to implement security measures such as training and evacuation plans, and for staff and volunteers at these

venues to undergo training about what to do in the event of an attack.

Concerns have been raised over the -burdensome red-tape effect of the proposed rules on the UK's 10,000 volunteer-manned -village halls which are at the heart of -communities. Many of

these could face possible closure if they are forced to comply with new anti--terrorism -legislation to improve security in -public places. Fortunately, at the moment it looks as if there is a cut off for halls with a capacity of less than 100, which would mean that our village hall is excluded under the pro-

posed laws at present.

A summary of key points of this bill as they appear to affect Village Halls can be found in the link below https://mcusercontent.com/a2f30adda95147abda6dc3701/files/30079d14-c6cb-4f6d-3798-3b9a5a53ddd8/Terrorism_Protn_Pr emises_summary_LB.01.pdf

Thank You to the Boys & Girls of Brown's School

Last Friday (23rd June) several boys and girls from Browns School came to my house to do various jobs for me. Chris, the deputy headmaster, had in advance asked some of the Chelsfield villagers if they would allow children from his school to come into our homes and gardens and do any kind of tasks that we could

find for them. I have been agreeable to this for many years except of course during Covid and have to say that the children have always been very well behaved and carried out any jobs I asked them to do very well. A few teachers accompany the children and they too are very nice and certainly well behaved. If any of you

reading this are asked in future years to welcome these boys and girls into your homes, I certainly urge you to do so. The children are very likeable and will clean cars, pick the weeds from your garden, wash front doors etc.

*Bridget O'Donnell
Stonehouse*

Receive The Chelsfield Village Voice by Email

If you enjoy reading Chelsfield Village Voice, and would like to receive it regularly as soon as it is available then why not add your name to our email distribution list?

Your email address will

not be shared with any other person, group or organisation, and you will only receive two emails a month from us - one, in the last week of each month, reminding of the final date for submission of articles, and the

second, close to the first day of each month, the complete monthly issue.

Simply email your request to:

chelsfieldvillagevoice@gmail.com

Knit and Natter - Monday 10th July



This month we are having a Summer Social.

get started, everyone is welcome.

Please contact Sophie on 07983 656022 for the location details.

Whether you are a knitting expert or want to

Feel free to join us just for a chat too!

We'd love to see you!

Thank You For Your Support!

Thank You for your support!

Through the goodwill and generosity of the residents and friends of Chelsfield Village we have managed to fund the publication of the Chelsfield Village Voice for a complete year.

We have now been offered sponsorship, for a

limited period, in the form of printer toner, from a local business, which means I will not be including my monthly plea for help in forthcoming issues (However, donations will still be welcome as they will provide important funds as we move further into the future).

I cannot thank everybody who has supported us throughout this difficult

year enough, it has enabled us to continue to provide Chelsfield Village Voice, our advertisement free community newsletter to you all completely free of charge.

I'd also like to thank

versapak[®]

for their generous offer of support.

Chelsfield & Well Hill Produce Show

Just a reminder that the Chelsfield & Well Hill Produce Show is on Saturday 9th September.

Although there are no

specific classes for children, children are invited to enter any of the main classes where they will be judged separately from the adults.

Schedules and rules will be in the August Chelsfield Village Voice, or email:

chelsfieldanwellhillshow@gmail.com

Statement From iCare's Chair of Trustees

Strokes affect different people in different ways but in many cases they turn lives upside down, both for the stroke survivors and their families. For the past 38 years, ICARE has opened its doors to help those living with the consequences of a stroke, a lifeline for so many - a highlight of the week for those attending and a weekly respite for their family carers.. At the day centre we provide a range of physical, mental, creative and social activities, including professionally provided physiotherapy and speech and language therapy, all aimed at rebuilding lives after a stroke.

We have been severely affected by the pandemic. The closure of the Centre for 16 months and the worries over covid (especially among the vulnerable community we serve) which continued much longer, meant that were hardly able to recruit any new clients for about 2 years. As a result our

client numbers, and client fees, are down. This has left us in a very precarious financial position with a very real risk that we might have to close.

Our future depends on rebuilding the client numbers, and we have been taking actions to better reach stroke survivors who could benefit from our services. But to achieve those numbers we need time while the actions have effect.

We have, of course, been looking carefully at our costs, and we have supporters who have been with us for many years to whom we are very grateful. We also have a great volunteer fundraising team who continue to raise money for us.

But to create the financial breathing space we need additional funds, including from new sources and especially for core running costs, hence launching our appeal to

raise an extra £30,000 by the end of 2023.

ICARE is the only stroke day centre in Bromley and the surrounding area, and our services are vital for the health and well-being of our clients and their families. It would be tragic if ICARE had to close after serving the community for so long: tragic for the present clients, tragic for those future stroke survivors who we couldn't help, and also for our staff, volunteers and all who have supported us for nearly four decades.

We are appealing for your help. Whether you are able to donate yourself, or raise funds for ICARE, or know of an organisation who might be able to help, please get in touch.

Our aim is to be here to serve stroke survivors into a fifth decade. With your help we can do it. Thank you.

Mike Talbot
Chair of Trustees



Improving lives after a stroke

SAVE YOUR LOCAL CHARITY

ICARE DAY CENTRE NEEDS YOUR HELP!

ICARE Day Centre Trust Limited is an independent charity supporting adults who have experienced a stroke and their families.

Due to the pandemic and limited external grants available to charities,
ICARE needs to raise £30,000 by December 2023
to enable them to remain open and continue supporting vulnerable adults.

Alongside fundraising events, partnership working and identifying new clients, ICARE needs to raise these funds to preserve the future of the charity. Without this financial support they will be forced to close their doors after 38 years in Bromley.

If you would like to learn more about the charity or have ideas to help the charity over the coming months, please contact

Tracey Parry, Centre Manager or Mike Tailbot, Chair of the Board of Trustees.



ICARE DAY CENTRE TRUST LIMITED

Old School House, High Street, Green Street Green, Orpington, BR6 6BJ

Telephone: 01689 862883

Email: admin@icarecentre.org.uk

Website: www.icarecentre.org.uk

Charity No: 1012681

Company No: 2722796

What's On in July at The 5 Bells

Wednesday 5th July

Open Mike Night

Wednesday 12th July

Bingo from 8.30pm

Wednesday 19th July

Open Mike Night

Wednesday 26th July

Bingo from 8.30pm

Friday 28th, Saturday 29th & Sunday 30th July

Beer & Cider Festival with BBQ on Friday & Saturday from 12 noon to 5pm with Jemma Love (saxophonist) playing from 3pm-5pm

Our new kitchen opening times are as follows:

Mon -Sat 12noon - 8pm (except Wednesday)

Weds 12noon - 3pm

(Bingo nights 12 noon -7:45pm)

Sunday 12-5pm

130th Anniversary Flower Festival Weekend

WELL HILL MISSION CHURCH

130th ANNIVERSARY FLOWER FESTIVAL WEEKEND

"FARMING THROUGH THE AGES" 24th / 25th JUNE 2023

We had a wonderful weekend of celebrations to commemorate the church's founding in June 1893 to serve the many seasonal fruit and hop pickers working on local

farms. The flower displays were absolutely stunning and filled the church as well as around the path outside. We had contributions from St. Martin's, Shoreham, Crockenhill, Castle Farm, Kent Heights Flower Club and from a number of individuals from Well Hill and the local area. In spite of the heat, the flowers lasted really well for the whole weekend. The display boards showing photos and

information about some of the history of the church, and local farming over the last 130 years also proved very popular.

On Saturday afternoon, , Dave and Helen Griffiths and Beth Sawyer gave a concert outside in the garden to a record audience of over 100 people, which was followed by a cream tea. Luckily there was cloud cover so we managed not to fry!



We have many photos, and I hope that we will have sorted through them in time to reproduce some for the next magazine.

Our thanks must go not only to the wonderful display arrangers, but also to all those who made cakes and served tea, tidied up the gardens, re-organised the pews, to the musicians, to Norman for re-painting the church (in spite of a recent hip operation!) and to all the organisers, without whom the germ of the idea back in January would never have come to fruition.

We raised over £1,100 from concert ticket sales and generous donations, which will be put towards the repair of some of the external woodwork, which is, in several places, badly rotting.

*Anne Ireland
29th June 2023*

On Sunday Rev'd Michael led an outdoor service of Holy Communion, which was well attended, with

visitors from St. Martin's, St. Mary's and Crockenhill adding to our usual congregation.

Passing The Time in Chelsfield (Part 4)



Pies and Puddings in Chelsfield

Holding business meetings in pubs and eating as well is a pleasure! Going out

socially and eating is another, even better, pleasure. I have done both in Chelsfield lately. Actually, so far in one pub, The Five Bells, which I also talked about

in my first column in April. Then, I had been told by landlord Sam Gregory that his favourite dish on his menu is the shepherds pie. So, I tried it for the first time the other day. Shepherd's pie made with pulled lamb, in fact. It is presented simply, in a rectangular dish, with peas on the side, and bonus gravy can be asked for, if that is to your taste. The shepherds pie was surprisingly filling and was a dish to be savoured. I have also had the staple of many a pub, beefburger and chips, at the Five Bells, and I rather enjoyed that, too.

Now that my culinary 'research' is complete, I know that the Bo Peep pub is another must-visit local eatery. The Bo Peep is old! What goes with that – and is great in the summer – are the stone walls, the subdued light inside, the blackened beans, and the stone and brick floor as you go in, and a rather epic fireplace. With three spaces

leading off the entrance, it is easy to be sung and feel a little like you're in a hobbit hole in the Bo Peep.

There is also quite a big car park and tables to sit at outside in the sun, as many people do. I like it there a lot. Kate runs the place with a complete focus on happy customers and good service, there is an enticing drinks board up outside presently, and a paper and a chalk board menu inside. The steak and ale pudding is much-loved by Darren, co-presenter of the Bromley Buzz podcast, and it is apparently even more filling than the Five Bells shepherds pie. Another summer touch is that there is a large ice cream selection at the Bo Peep.

The pub website - thebopeep.com - says, "The inn known as The Bo Peep was built in the year 1548 during the reign of King Edward VI (1547-1553)." The pub has a list of former keepers since records began in 1627. It was then known as



Seagraves Alehouse, becoming The White Hart in 1709, and The Bo Peep in 1972. The pub also stocks this magazine! And a very good mint and lime spritzer.

If you want to know more about me as a local estate agent, check out my website, www.ianwoodproperty.com.

As ever, if you see me in either pub, I'm tall, dark-haired, and I wear glasses! Chances are I'll be having a pint of orange juice. Or lager. Do say 'hello'.

*Ian Wood,
29th June 2023*

OPEN GARDEN

Shirelands, Rock Hill, BR6 7PP
Sunday 9th July 2023
Time: 11am – 4pm

(What3words address: fast.hopes.last)

*Chris & Carol welcome you to explore
Their award-winning wild life garden, a
one-acre garden surrounding a self-build passive house.*

*Most of the garden is easily accessible
with gently sloping paths to most areas.*

*We expect to have a honey bee observation
hive as well as refreshments.*

Parking Available

Suggested donation £5.00

We have decided to donate any proceeds to
ICARE Day Centre Trust Ltd.



Tel: 01689 862883

www.icarecentre.org.uk

Charity No. 1012681 - Company No. 2722796



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JULY IS LAVENDER MONTH AT THE BO PEEP

Throughout the month of July we will be offering
Sweet & Savoury dishes
Alcoholic & Non Alcoholic drinks
using lavender



DATES FOR THE DIARY

PROSECCO WEEKEND-12th/13th August
BRITISH FOOD FORTNIGHT
Monday 18th-Friday 29th September

Good Queen Bess's Visit to Orpington

There is a tale told in Orpington that Queen Elizabeth I visited the "town" and spent the night at Bark Hart House. She even gave the house its name.

The house was the home of Sir Percival Hart, who was Knight Harbinger and Chief Sewer to the Queen. He owned nearby Lullingstone Castle and a great deal of land and property in this part of Kent. With the passage of time and the demolition of Bark Hart, no one was sure whether the tale was truth or myth. Then in the 1960s the late Eileen Hart, of the now defunct Orpington Historical Society, unearthed a document in the Guildhall Library proving that it was indeed fact.

Queen Elizabeth is recorded as holding a Privy Council meeting in Orpington on 22 July 1573 and issuing a warrant for the arrest of a dishonest contractor in Bristol and an order to stop a preacher, Edward Dearing, from preaching. Presumably he had Catholic sympathies.

Other secondary sources

give a few more details. In the late 1700s John Nichols produced a five-volume work on the Progresses and Public Procession of Queen Elizabeth I which shows her itineraries. Orpington was sandwiched between the rather more prestigious Croydon Palace and Knoll Place in Sevenoaks, but she still stayed here for three days. So it was more than an overnight stop.



And there is also an account in Kent Surveyed, by Thomas Philipott, published just 80 years after her visit, that gives credence to how the house got its name: "Bark Hart ... was built by Percivall Hart Esquire, Father to the

late Sir Percivall: but it was adorned with this Name by Queen Elizabeth, when she was magnificently entertained at this place, by the above said Gentleman.

"Upon her Reception, she received her first Caresses by a Nymph, which personified the Genius of the House, then the Scene was shifted, and from several Chambers, which, as they were contrived, represented a Ship.

"A Sea Conflict was offered up to the Spectator's View, which so much obliged the Eyes of this Princess, with the Charms of Delight, that upon her Departure, she left upon this House (to perpetuate the Memory both of the Author and Artifice) the Name and Appellation of Bark-hart."

Philipott's account reads as if this was a play or several tableaux – though it is not entirely clear. Sea pageants were a favourite of the Queen. Architects, artists, and craftsmen, actors and dancers for plays and poetic recitations would all have been employed

to create the entertainment.

Philipott's account was published only 86 years after the event. He would have obtained information locally and the tales would still have been in the collective memory of villagers who would have heard them at their grandparents' knees. Those grandparents would have been spectators or employed in providing for the Queen and her court. And there was a lot of providing to do!

Having the monarch come to stay during a summer "progress" was a great honour, but also a burden. The host had to pick up a hefty price tag for entertainment and food and lodging for a sizable proportion of those travelling with the Royal Household. That would be a minimum of 300 people and 1,000 horses as up to 50% of the court went on progress.

We know from the transcript of the Privy Council document that with the Queen at Orpington were The Lord Admiral, The Lord Chamberlain, The Earl of

Leicester, Mr Treasurer and Mr Secretary. All brought their own clerks and servants.

All Tudor monarchs went on Progress but none as often as Elizabeth, who in her 44-year reign stayed at some 241 different places.

It was a good idea to get away from Whitehall and the other Royal Palaces along the Thames in the summer as they could become very smelly and prone to diseases, such as the plague in the heat. When the monarch was away, they got a good spring clean.

Elizabeth was also the arch-exponent of Public Relations and getting out and about and meeting



HER people helped her popularity.

She did not travel light. There would have been the monarch's brewer, musicians, jesters and doctors – to name but a few. She brought her own cooks, kitchen staff and servants and personal belongings, including plate, bed and tapestries. The Queen's Clerk of the Market would have arrived some time before the visit *"to warn the people to bake, to brewe, and to make redy othyr vyttayle and stuff in to their logginges"*.

An advance team scouted the destinations, arranging for selected members of her court and household to lodge with local nobles. The Queen and her immediate household might have fitted into Sir Percival's modern house – but The Priory, the manors of Mayfield, the vicarage and other substantial houses would have been co-opted and Sir Percival may have built temporary or tented accommodation, including stables

The village would have been in turmoil for weeks before and after the visit.

Sir Percival, *pictured left*, was rich enough to bear

the expense but there are tales of knights feigning illness or hiding when the monarch came – it just cost too much and could bankrupt the unlucky host.

But how and why did Orpington – which no more than a rural village with only four or five substantial houses of gentry – come to be so honoured?

While Bark Hart was not a palace, it was a relatively modern house — built 25 years or so before the visit. And its owner Sir Percival Hart would have been well known to the Queen.

On a practical level, Orpington was in the right spot. No more than 12 miles from Croydon, and that was the maximum distance a Royal caravan could travel, and less to Sevenoaks.

Sir Percival would also have known exactly what was needed to make a visit a success — as it was. As Knight Harbinger he was responsible for allocating accommodation to visitors at the court, and finding accommodation for everyone travelling

with the King or Queen when they were on progress. He organised sleeping arrangements and sleeping charts were distributed so that no one was housed below or above their rank. In his role of Chief Sewer he was responsible for sorting out seating arrangements at meals and how the food was served.

Sir Percival must have had considerable organisational and diplomatic skills as he had kept that role under four monarchs, both Protestant and Catholic.

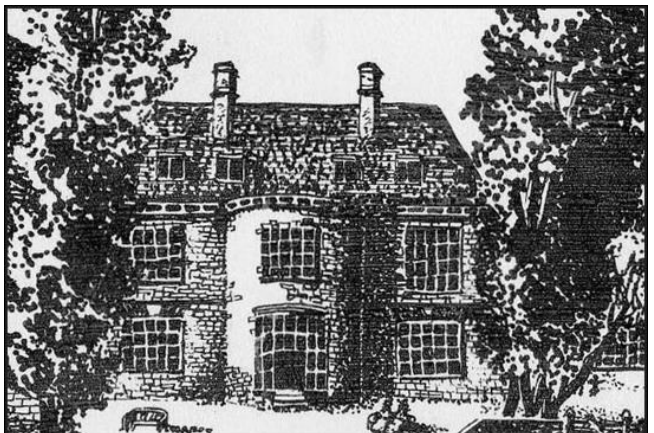
Orpington manor had been granted to him by Elizabeth's father for a yearly rent of one hundred shillings, one penny, and three

farthings. He had been knighted by Henry VIII four years earlier.

Although he did not acquire Orpington Manor until 1541, the village of Orpington had been his home for at least 10 years before. His four eldest children were baptised in All Saints Church between 1531 and 1542.

He lived at that time at Mayfield Manor— often known as Little Orpington — which lies adjacent to Orpington manor.

Mayfield and Lullingstone were inherited by Sir Percival from his uncle Sir John Peche, though he did not come into outright possession until after the death of his aunt Elizabeth Peche in 1543.



Sir Percival was probably not living at Bark Hart at the time of Elizabeth's visit but at Lullingstone where he died seven years later.

Queen Elizabeth's visit must have been the pinnacle of Sir Percival's career and the most momentous thing that happened in the lives of those who lived in Orpington.

Bark Hart became the dower house for the Hart family and was then

rented out. And through many alterations and extensions the owners never forgot its Royal connection. Bark Hart ended its time as Orpington Urban District Council offices after the Second World War. It still had its Tudor panelling, as did several other areas of the house, and there was a plaque on the door of one of the bedrooms saying "Queen Elizabeth's Room".

But that did not save it from being demolished in

1957 for the expansion of its next-door neighbour, All Saints Church.

This article is based on a talk given to the July meeting of the Chelsfield Local History Group. The group now takes a break for the summer, monthly meetings will resume in the autumn.

*10.30am on Thursday
28th September at
Chelsfield Village Hall.*

Christine Hellicar

What's On at Bore Place



ID Walk: Summer Trees
9th July 2023
10am 12pm
Adult Tickets £10
Child Tickets £6

Join John Waller our resident woodsman for a leisurely walk around the Bore Place estate. As it's summer, the trees will be in leaf to provide some

clues... You will learn some general ID skills, along with ways to understand how the trees are related and grouped - [ID Walk: Summer Trees \(boreplace.org\)](http://boreplace.org).

Citizen Science:
Bat Emergence Survey [3rd August 2023
6:45pm – 9:30pm
Adult Tickets Free

We are looking for volunteers to help conduct a bat emergence survey at Bore Place House. The evening will begin with an introduction and task briefing and then, equipped with your bat

detector, you'll be stationed around the site to conduct the survey and record your sightings - [Citizen Science: Bat Emergence Survey \(boreplace.org\)](http://boreplace.org).

Reptile ID walk
24th August 2023
10am – 12pm
Adult Tickets £10
Child Tickets £6

Join us for a guided walk around the Bore Place estate, stopping off to check the reptile mats and record the reptiles encountered onsite. You will learn ID skills to recognise UK native reptiles

such as slow worms and grass snakes, as well as information about their ecology and where to look for these species - [ID Walk: Reptiles \(boreplace.org\)](#).

Then we have two craft events coming up which will be the perfect to book in as a gift for someone:

Yoghurt Making Workshop

10th September 2023
10:30am – 1:00pm
Adult Tickets £28

Learn to make delicious live yoghurt and yoghurt cultures from scratch using milk from Bore Place - [Yoghurt Making Workshop \(boreplace.org\)](#).

Wet Felting Workshop
23rd September 2023
10am – 4pm

Adult Tickets £75

Join Clare Summons, to discover the wonder of wet felting techniques to create your own piece inspired by the beautiful seasonal landscape of Bore Place. A delicious light lunch using ingredients grown on site, is included in the workshop fee [Wet Felting Workshop \(boreplace.org\)](#).



LILY MUNN

Environmental Educator and Community Events Intern

Bore Place Road, Chiddingstone, Kent, TN8 7AR

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Reception 01732 463255

www.boreplace.org

Home of the Commonwork Trust (reg. charity 1160725 & company 09254227) & Commonwork Organic Farms Ltd (reg. company 1977080)



Chelsfield Cricket Club Fixtures July/August

Saturday	1 st July			
Sunday	2 nd July	Greenwich MV CC	Home	14.00 hrs
Saturday	8 th July			
Sunday	9 th July	Locksbottom	Away	14.00 hrs
Saturday	15 th July	Knockholt	Away	13.30 hrs
Sunday	16 th July	Tatsfield CC	Away	14.00 hrs
Saturday	22 nd July	Maidstone SK	Home	13.30 hrs
Sunday	23 rd July	Players CC	Home	14.00 hrs
Saturday	29 th July	Old Wilsonians	Home	13.30 hrs
Sunday	30 th July	Forge Wood	Away	14.00 hrs
Saturday	5 th August	Holborough	Home	13.30 hrs
Sunday	6 th August	Downe CC	Away	14.00 hrs
Saturday	12 th August	Chelsfield	Away	13.30 hrs
Sunday	13 th August	Forge Wood	Away	13.30 hrs
Saturday	19 th August			
Sunday	20 th August	Horton Kirby	Home	13.30 hrs
Saturday	26 th August	Gravesend	TBC	13.30 hrs
Sunday	27 th August	Eynsford CC	Home	13.30 hrs

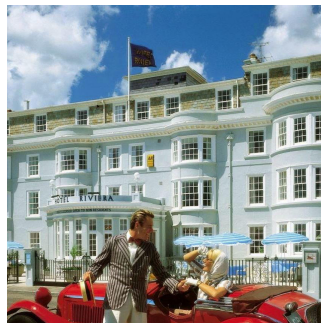
If The Cap Fits The About Turn Will Be OK Too!

Flying Officer David Lane
ID 7/0 126605 Dental
Unit LANE D.G.

Whilst on holiday in East Devon recently I was able to browse my late Dad's many wartime diaries. When WW2 broke out Dad was coming to the end of his dental training at King's Medical School. He always wanted to enter the RAF, ideally as a pilot because of his love of aeroplanes, of which he made many models. However the selection committee for the RAF asked that he came in as a RAF dentist which is a very important medical need for both pilots and ground crew. Combat and bombing raids at very high

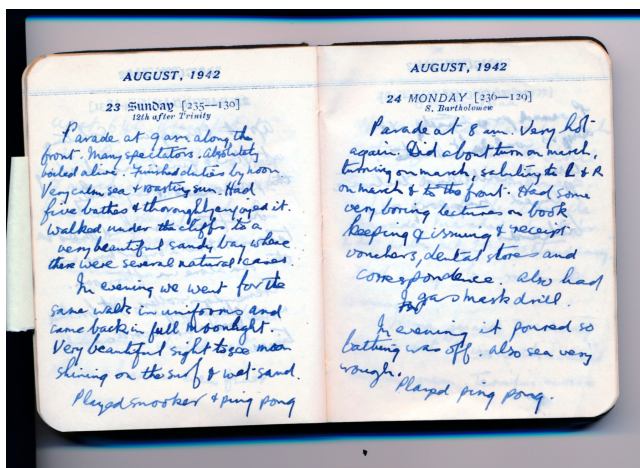
altitudes in low temperatures exacerbates toothache. Thus on August 23rd 1942 he was ordered to attend the enrolment centre in Sidmouth. This date was to be my birthday in 1943 after my parents were married in October 1942. His diary details the whole event from leaving Orpington station on the 9.11 train to Waterloo for the 10.55 to Sidmouth (there was a *straight through service via Sidmouth Junction. Alas Beeching axed this branch, which today would still be greatly used I suspect*).

20th Aug '42: He joined the RAF medical depot in the Hotel Riviera on the



seafront. (*Still there and very nice too.*) No duties that day but uniforms were donned and they could stroll the prom. He got in a hopeless muddle saluting, he records.

The following days were spent having lectures on RAF procedures '*boring*' (I have his RAF Pocket Book 1937 A.P.1081) and marching up and down in front of hundreds of spectators. Slow and quick march and saluting. In the evenings he went for many swims and walks along the beach. As we ourselves walked along the prom in May I could picture him and his squad "being boiled alive in the hot sun". Each of the squad took turns took turns in drilling the rest which is when Dad found that his cap was too big and on the "about turn"



his cap stayed facing front! *(When I was in the Chelsfield Players for "Carrington VC" we all had to go to Woolwich to be taught how to drill properly. Did not come naturally to me either).* He records how he and others still went swimming and walking and playing ping pong, and even walked along the beach to Ladram Bay at midnight in full uniform by moonlight. The Home Guard was firing a small hidden gun out to sea making a terrific noise!

His first official posting as a now fully equipped RAF dentist (with rank "Flying Officer") was to RAF Honiley near Coventry. He left Sidmouth Station at 10.20 Aug27th bound for Euston. He had lost his special ticket and had a 10 minute panic to get

a new warrant made out! After a long trip to Birmingham he phoned Honiley for transport where 'he wasn't expected'. He records he briefly looked over the facility of his surgery, saw the adjutant and got 48 hours leave. Being my dad! He took the opportunity to dash back to Orpington via Coventry etc to see Kay,his adored fiancé. He arrived at Goodmead in the High Street at 9.45 where his mum and sister had gone to bed and had to whistle through the letterbox to wake them up. His sister Rachel was astonished to see him! He rang Kay, who lived in Knoll Rise, who had a huge surprise too! He walked up the High Street to see her. Then back to Goodmead for a meal, into civvies and overslept nearly

missing the 4.14 am train back to Euston and on to Honiley. I overflowed the airfield and took a picture.

The diaries continue to record in great detail all the many RAF stations he went to in the UK during the Conflict, before finally flying to RAF Guteslohe when the War ended and the UK Peace keeping Occupation period started. He returned finally in 1946 to begin his long dental career in a practice at Blackheath, and latterly the Kent Health Mobile Dental unit which visited many primary schools in Kent Villages. This was to be the most enjoyable and relaxing experience of all his dentistry life. The children loved his gentle and informative manner, and his educational trick of putting a tooth in a glass of Coke and watching it dissolve over a few days! Like his father Archie Lane he was a skilled and very gentle dentist. I was to follow in his footsteps but fate intervened and I became a photographer. A decision that neither Dad nor myself regretted.



RAF Honiley David Lane far right 1944



The Benefice of
Chelsfield with Green Street Green
and Pratts Bottom



St Martin's Chelsfield & Well Hill – Services – July 2023

All welcome! Come and join us any time. Please watch the church website for any updates

St Martin's

Sun 2 July	10.00am	Holy Communion <u>CWO1</u> : MG
4 th after Trinity	6.30pm	Choral Evensong <u>BCP</u> : MG
Wed 5 July	9.30am	Holy Communion <u>CWO2</u> : MG
Sun 9 July	10.00am	Family Worship : SAJ
5 th after Trinity	6.30pm	Sung Eucharist <u>BCP</u> : SAJ
Wed 12 July	9.30am	Holy Communion <u>CWO2</u> : MG
Sun 16 July	10.00am	Holy Communion <u>CWO1</u> : SAJ
6 th after Trinity	6.30pm	Choral Evensong <u>BCP</u> : Reader John Buckle
Wed 19 July	9.30am	Holy Communion <u>CWO2</u> : SAJ
Sun 23 July	10.00am	Morning Worship : KIA
7 th after Trinity	6.30pm	Choral Evensong <u>BCP</u> : SAJ
Wed 26 July	9.30am	Holy Communion <u>CWO2</u> : SAJ
Sun 30 July	10.00am	<i>Benefice Holy Communion at Well Hill</i>
7 th after Trinity	6.30pm	Choral Evensong <u>BCP</u> : MG

Well Hill

Sun 9 July	10.00am	Morning Prayer <u>KIA</u>
Sun 23 July	10.00am	Holy Communion <u>MG</u>
Sun 30 July	10.00am	<i>Benefice Holy Communion</i>

Key: CWO1 – Common Worship Order 1; CWO2 – Common Worship Order 2; BCP – Book of Common Prayer; SAJ : Rev Susan Atkinson-Jones, MG : Rev Michael Gentry, KIA : Reader Ken l'Anson

Trading Standards

ALERT!

Driveway Cleaning

Does it need to be done there and then?

Bromley Trading Standards is reminding residents to be wary of traders offering driveway, roof, patio or path cleaning through cold calling at your door. They can also leave glossy leaflets with you or through your door.

Whatever the work being offered, dealing with doorstep traders risks **shoddiness**, having **no redress**, and being **substantially overcharged**.

Sometimes, doorstep traders will encourage you to allow them to 'patch-test' your driveway to show how it could look, or they may even do this without your permission. The aim of this is to put pressure on you to have all the work done, as it will often leave an unsightly patch.

Don't deal with doorstep traders

If it is necessary to clean your drive, roof, patio, etc., do your research, take your time, and seek several quotes. Find a reputable trader at [Trading Standards Checked \(bromley.gov.uk\)](https://www.bromley.gov.uk/tradingstandardschecked).

Report & Assistance

Protect yourself and others by reporting incidents.

If you, a neighbour, or someone else you know is being affected by doorstep traders, call Trading Standards' Rapid Response on **07903 852090**.

If the cold caller is persistent and refuses to leave, you can call the police on 999.

Contact Citizens Advice for help and advice on **0808 223 1133** or on the [Citizens Advice website](https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk).

Bromley Trading Standards

To keep up with the latest scam alerts and warnings from Bromley Trading Standards sign up on www.bromley.gov.uk/ScamAlertSignUpForm.

Bromley Trading Standards also run a fair-trader directory to help you find a safe, reliable trader that you can trust, visit www.bromley.gov.uk/tradingstandardschecked to learn more.

Please share this message with others by forwarding the email or sharing the browser link.



Dates For Your Diary

WEEKLY EVENTS

Every Tuesday
Five Bells
CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT
8.30pm

Every Thursday
The Chelsfield Pub
QUIZ NIGHT
from 7.30pm

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

Wednesday 5th July
Chelsfield Village Hall
Chelsfield Volunteers
AFTERNOON TEA
2.30pm-4.30pm (page 9)

Wednesday 5th July
Five Bells
Open Mike Night
from 8.30pm (page 14)

Thursday 6th July
Halstead Village Hall
Kent Heights Flower Club
7.00pm for 7.30pm (page 7)

Saturday 8th July
Chelsfield Cricket Ground
Chelsfield Village Fair
from 12 Noon (Page 4)

Sunday 9th July
Rectory Garden, Skibbs Lane
Cream Teas

2.30pm - 4.30pm
(No Dogs Please)

Sunday 9th July
Shirelands, Rock Hill
OPEN GARDEN
11am to 4pm (page 17)

Sunday 9th July
Bore Place
SUMMER TREE WALK
10am to 12 noon (page 22)

Monday 10th July
Five Bells
KNIT & NATTER SOCIAL
from 8.00pm (page 11)

Wednesday 12th July
Five Bells
Bingo
from 8.30pm (page 14)

Thursday 13th July
Imperial Road, Chislehurst BR7 5LX
National Trust Talk "The Good The Bad and The Ugly"
2.00pm (page 4)

Tuesday 18th July
Chelsfield Village Hall
Evening WI
7.30pm-9.30pm

Wednesday 19th July
Five Bells
Open Mike Night
from 8.30pm (page 14)

Wednesday 19th July
Chelsfield Village Hall
Chelsfield Volunteers
AFTERNOON TEA
2.30pm-4.30pm (page 9)

Sunday 23rd July
Rectory Garden, Skibbs Lane
Cream Teas
2.30pm - 4.30pm
(No Dogs Please)

Saturday 24th June
Coolings Garden Centre
Knockholt Farmers' Market
from 10am - 3pm

Wednesday 26th July
Five Bells
Bingo
from 8.30pm (page 14)

Thursday 27th July
Methodist Church, Sevenoaks Road. BR6 9JH
National Trust Talk
"Doodlebugs & Rockets"
8.00pm (page 4)

Fri-Sunday 28th, 29th, 30th July
Five Bells
BEER & CIDER FESTIVAL with Barbeque
from 12 Noon (page 14)

Saturday 29th July
Chelsfield Village Hall
BEETLE DRIVE
Doors open 6.45pm (page 8)

Recycling Bin Collection July 2023

Monday 3rd July
Monday 10th July
Monday 17th July
Monday 24th July
Monday 31st July

Plastic, Glass and Tins, Food Waste.
Non-recyclable refuse, Paper & Cardboard, Food Waste
Plastic, Glass and Tins, Food Waste.
Non-recyclable refuse, Paper & Cardboard, Food Waste
Plastic, Glass and Tins, Food Waste.

Every week

Batteries, Small Electrical Items, Textiles (please only present one small transparent bag each week, and re-present the following week if it is not collected)

Every 2 weeks (Mar-Nov)
every Month (Dec-Feb)

Green Garden Waste is collected fortnightly or monthly only from households that subscribe (£60 per annum) to the Bromley scheme (Telephone: 0300 303 8658 for advice)